

Subject: Publication of Newell's collection of  
ancient Oriental seals

Frankfort, Henri  
[Amsterdam, Holland]

1937



# Allard Pierson Stichting

Archaeologisch-Historisch Instituut der Universiteit van Amsterdam

Afd. West-Azië en Egypte  
Prof. Dr. H. FRANKFORT

AMSTERDAM, (O) 20 November 1937  
Weesperzijde 33, Tel. 50962

No. ....

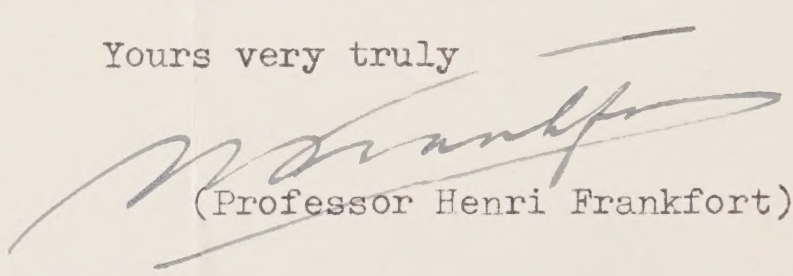
Dear Sir,

The publication of your collection of ancient oriental seals was a major event; I presume that you are aware of the fact that its value is even greater than Dr. Von der Osten thought at the time of publication since subsequent discoveries have established beyond a doubt the genuineness of nrs. 669, 690, 695, while that of nrs. 681, 683, 684 will be manifest as soon as some unpublished material now at my disposal will have been published.

It is obviously impossible to study the subject of ancient oriental glyptic without frequent reference to your collection, and I am anxious to reproduce some of your seals since in many respects they illustrate important points better than others. It is, however, extremely unsatisfactory to have blocks made from printed plates, and I should therefore be deeply grateful to you if you could have photographic prints made at my expense of the original negatives of the seals mentioned in the appended list. I apologize for troubling you in the matter but can assure you that your assistance would substantially further the study of a subject which I must assume to interest you greatly.

Thanking you in advance I remain

Yours very truly

  
(Professor Henri Frankfort)

*nrs of seal-  
impressions  
of which  
photographs  
are required*

47; 67; 97; 98; 116; 155; 157; 164; 166; 224; 226; 240; 289; 293;  
301; 312; 314; 319; 345; 360; 457.

Mr. Edward T. Newell,

New York.



7, CANNON PLACE, N.W. 3.

HAMPSTEAD 523C.

4 December 1937

Mr. Howland Wood,

New York

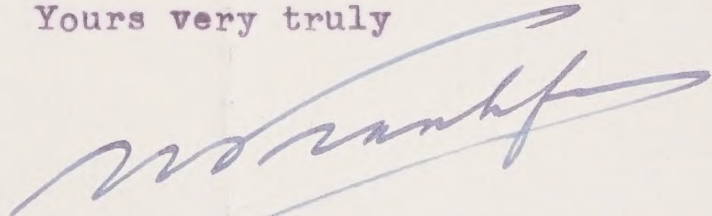
*impressions*  
h

Dear Sir,

Dr. H. H. Von der Osten advised me to write to you for some photographic prints of seal cylinders in the collection of Mr. Newell. The enclosed letter will explain why I am anxious to secure these. I had hoped to obtain them through the publishers of Mr. Newell's collection, the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, but I am told that they have not received a reply to their letters. In the mean time my publishers are clamouring for the prints to complete the blocks for my Handbook. I should be profoundly grateful to you if you would assist me to obtain these prints. I am, of course, fully prepared to defray the costs. It would save time if you would use this address in London.

Allow me to offer my apologies for troubling you in a matter which is, perhaps, outside the scope of your work, and to assure you once more that any assistance would place me under a deep obligation.

Yours very truly



(Prof. H. Frankfort)

December 22, 1937

Professor Dr. H. Frankfort  
7, Cannon Place, N.W. 3  
London, England

Dear Sir:

Your letter of December 4th at hand. Concerning certain photographs you would like to produce from Dr. Von der Osten's book on Mr. Newell's seal cylinders. I have managed to find photographs of all but two of the seals and I am herewith enclosing them. Seals 67 and 116 I have been unable to locate either a negative or a print of. Dr. Von der Osten was several years working on this book which he did between his trips to Turkey and Germany and photographs were made all during that period and as the photographs were made by two or three different photographers some of the negatives have been mislaid or lost. As both numbers 67 and 116 are clear in the reproductions I think you can make satisfactory cuts from these.

I beg to remain

Very truly yours

HW:kj

Curator